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Budget and Policy

### Temporary Pandemic SNAP Benefits Will End in Remaining 35 States in March 2023

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The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program's (SNAP) emergency allotments (EAs) temporary benefit increases that Congress enacted to address rising food insecurity and provide economic stimulus during the COVID-19 pandemic — will end after February 2023 issuances. This will result in a benefit cut for every SNAP household in the jurisdictions that still are paying EAs — 32 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Every household in those states will receive at least \$95 a month less; some households, who under regular SNAP rules receive low benefits because they have somewhat higher, but still modest incomes, will see reductions of \$250 a month or more. The average person will receive about \$90 a month less in SNAP benefits.<sup>2</sup>

The temporary benefits pushed back against hunger and hardship during COVID. A study estimated that EAs kept 4.2 million people above the poverty line in the last quarter of 2021, reducing poverty by 10 percent — and child poverty by 14 percent — in states with EAs at the time. The estimated reduction in poverty rates due to EAs was highest for Black and Latino people.<sup>3</sup>

The end of the temporary EAs will be a significant change that will increase food hardship for many individuals and families, given the modest amount of basic SNAP benefits and high recent inflation in food prices. Without the EAs, SNAP benefits will average only about \$6.10 per person per day in 2023. That average daily benefit is about \$1.35 higher per person per day this year than it would have been as a result of the recent adjustment to the Thrifty Food Plan (TFP), which is the basis of SNAP benefits. The Agriculture Department (USDA) adjusted the TFP, effective in fiscal

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> EAs already ended in 18 states because those states dropped their COVID-19 related emergency declarations. SNAP participants in those states will not experience a decrease due to the end of EAs. In most states where EAs will be ending, the last EA issuance will be in February 2023. In a handful of states (for example, California, Hawai'i, Kansas, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nevada, and Vermont) the last EAs for February will likely be issued in March 2023.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Estimates are based on CBPP analysis of fiscal year 2019 SNAP household characteristics data with income and expenses adjusted to fiscal year 2023 values.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Laura Wheaton and Danielle Kwon, "Effect of the Reevaluated Thrifty Food Plan and Emergency Allotments on Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Benefits and Poverty," Urban Institute, August 2022, https://www.urban.org/research/publication/effect-reevaluated-thrifty-food-plan-and-emergency-allotmentssupplemental.

year 2022, under a congressional mandate to reevaluate it; the resulting TFP better aligns SNAP benefits with the cost of a nutritionally adequate diet.<sup>4</sup>

#### If SNAP Participants Have Questions About Benefit Changes

Due to a change in federal law, the temporary extra SNAP benefits that states began issuing in the spring of 2020 due to COVID-19 are ending after February 2023. Some states have already ended these extra benefits. (See Figure 1.)

SNAP enrollees will still receive their regular SNAP benefits after these extra benefits end. If they have questions about their regular benefit, they can contact their state human services agency.

Participants can also contact their state human services agency to update their information if one of the following applies, as it may increase their regular benefit:

- 1. If they recently lost income; or
- 2. If they experienced a recent increase in certain expenses, or they think the state doesn't know about these expenses: housing or child care costs, child support payments, or if someone in their household who is aged 60 or older or has a disability has monthly medical expenses of \$35 or more.

Find each state's website and telephone number

Find a local food bank for immediate food help

The timeframe for preparing for the end of EAs is short. Because this significant decrease will affect all SNAP households in the states that still are issuing EAs, it will be important for SNAP participants and local service providers, client advocate groups, retailers, and other stakeholders who communicate with SNAP participants to be aware of the timing of the reduction in benefits, and to take measures to minimize or mitigate the impact on households and on state agency operations.

The upcoming end of EAs also highlights the continued importance of ensuring that households participating in SNAP can claim allowable deductions for expenses such as rent, utilities, dependent care, child support payments, and medical expenses. SNAP benefits are higher for households with these kinds of expenses, which reduce the money they have available for food. Agencies' efforts to ensure that households know about and claim these deductions will mean that their SNAP benefits more accurately reflect their food assistance needs.

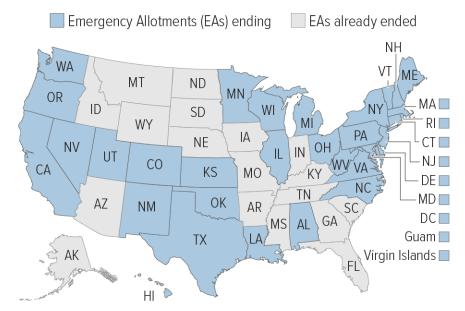
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Joseph Llobrera, Matt Saenz, and Lauren Hall, "USDA Announces Important SNAP Benefit Modernization," CBPP, August 26, 2021, <a href="https://www.cbpp.org/research/food-assistance/usda-announces-important-snap-benefit-modernization">https://www.cbpp.org/research/food-assistance/usda-announces-important-snap-benefit-modernization</a>. In fiscal year 2023, we estimate that the revised TFP will raise average benefits from \$4.75 per person per day (not counting EAs) to \$6.10 per person per day.

## Temporary SNAP Pandemic Benefit Increase Was Designed to Respond to Need Caused by COVID-19

Congress and President Trump enacted temporary SNAP EAs in March 2020 as part of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act to "address temporary food needs" during the pandemic. The law gave USDA the authority to approve states' requests for EAs for as long as the federal government's public health emergency (PHE) was in effect and the state had issued an emergency or disaster declaration. All states used the option in 2020 and early 2021, though by late 2022 some 17 states were no longer paying EAs because their state emergency declarations had ended. An additional state, South Carolina, ended EAs after January 2023. (See Figure 1.)

FIGURE 1

# Households in 35 States Will Lose at Least \$95 a Month as SNAP Temporary Pandemic Benefits End



Note: Temporary SNAP pandemic benefits will end in most states after February issuances. Households in states where EAs have already ended will not lose SNAP benefits as a result of the change.

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture

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In the year-end government funding bill enacted in late December 2022, Congress terminated the temporary SNAP EAs after the February 2023 issuance, ending the tie to the federal PHE (which the President has announced will end on May 11.) This change was made as part of a bipartisan compromise that created a permanent Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) program to provide grocery benefits to replace school meals for some 30 million children in low-income families when schools are closed in the summer — a time when families with school-aged children are at higher risk for food insecurity. It is deeply unfortunate that, to pay for this important advance, policymakers chose to end the EAs on a date certain rather than leaving them in place until the

public health emergency ends. In recent months the EAs have provided about \$3 billion each month in additional SNAP benefits in the states in which they are in effect.

The year-end legislation left in place other temporary pandemic-related SNAP flexibilities, such as the suspension of the three-month time limit for unemployed adults without children in their homes and expanded eligibility for low-income college students, but these will end when the federal PHE ends. (See box, "Other Temporary SNAP COVID-Related Food Assistance That Will End With the End of the PHE.")

### Other Temporary SNAP COVID-Related Food Assistance That Will End With the End of the PHE

In addition to SNAP EAs, several other temporary SNAP measures were enacted early in the pandemic and remain tied to the PHE.<sup>a</sup> The PHE will end on May 11, though the timing of the impact of each change will vary slightly.

- Three-month time limit for able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs). The SNAP three-month limit that applies to certain adults without disabilities and without children in their home was temporarily suspended nationwide during the PHE, except in limited circumstances. The end of the federal PHE in May means that the clock on the time limit will start in July. As a result, individuals subject to the time limit will lose their SNAP benefits starting in October, unless they live in a "waived" area or meet the other exemptions in place before the PHE ends.<sup>b</sup>
- College students. During the PHE, Congress provided two temporary exemptions to expand SNAP eligibility for certain college students who otherwise would not qualify for SNAP: 1) students eligible to participate in state or federal work-study programs, and 2) those whose "expected family contribution" for purposes of federal financial aid calculations is zero. These temporary exemptions will remain in place for 30 days after the end of the PHE for new SNAP applicants; participating students will be reassessed at the household's next SNAP recertification, which will likely occur over the course of the following 12 months.
- State workload waivers: Congress gave USDA additional flexibility during the PHE to help states manage their workloads, process new applications, and keep eligible households connected to SNAP. This authority will end after the PHE ends, though the Food and Nutrition Service will be able to offer states some flexibility under separate authority.

<sup>b</sup> For a detailed description of the time limit see Ed Bolen, Joseph Llobrera, and Brynne Keith-Jennings, "Permanently End the SNAP Cut-Off to Support a More Equitable Recovery," CBPP, May 4, 2021,

https://www.cbpp.org/research/food-assistance/permanently-end-the-snap-cut-off-to-support-a-more-equitable-recovery. Currently, 15 states, D.C., Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands have statewide waivers of the ABAWD time limit, and seven additional states have waivers for some areas of their state. Some states without waivers will qualify for and apply for waivers, but others have legislation that prohibits them from applying for waivers, or will not apply. See USDA, "Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program: Status of State Able-Bodied Adults without Dependents (ABAWD) Time Limit Waivers – Fiscal Year 2023 – 2nd Quarter," https://fns-prod.azureedge.us/sites/default/files/resource-files/FY23-Quarter%202-ABAWD-Waiver-Status 508 0.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> See CBPP, "States Are Using Much-Needed Temporary Flexibility in SNAP to Respond to COVID-19 Challenges," updated January 25, 2023, <a href="https://www.cbpp.org/research/food-assistance/states-are-using-much-needed-temporary-flexibility-in-snap-to-respond-to">https://www.cbpp.org/research/food-assistance/states-are-using-much-needed-temporary-flexibility-in-snap-to-respond-to</a> and USDA, "SNAP Work Requirements," <a href="https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/work-requirements">https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/work-requirements</a>. Another SNAP COVID relief measure, a temporary 15 percent increase to SNAP maximum allotments, began in January 2021 and ended after September 2021.

#### Temporary Emergency Allotments Pushed Back Against Hunger During COVID

Early in the pandemic, hunger was poised to soar. Calls to "211" for help with food in the first two months of the pandemic were over four times greater than earlier in 2020.<sup>5</sup> Use of food banks also increased.<sup>6</sup> In the Great Recession, the share of households that were food insecure rose from 11.1 percent in 2007 to 14.7 percent in 2009, according to USDA estimates. Yet because of broad and robust relief measures (including the EAs) soon after COVID emerged, the typical annual measure of food insecurity in 2020 and 2021 held steady at just over 10 percent, statistically unchanged from the 2019 level.

One study estimated that EAs kept 4.2 million people above the poverty line in the last quarter of 2021, reducing poverty by 10 percent — and child poverty by 14 percent — in states with EAs at the time. The reduction in poverty rates due to EAs was highest for Black and Latino people.<sup>7</sup> Another study examined the changes in rates of food insufficiency — a more severe condition of food hardship than food insecurity that was measured periodically over the course of the pandemic — when states ended EAs and found that EAs reduced food insufficiency by 10 percent.<sup>8</sup>

The temporary EAs have been the largest of the SNAP COVID-related relief measures, ultimately reaching all SNAP households in all states. Originally, beginning in March 2020, under a Trump Administration interpretation, a household's EA was the amount that raised the household's benefits to the SNAP maximum benefit for its household size. However, this approach left out the lowest-income SNAP households — the 40 percent of SNAP households that already received the maximum benefit. The Biden Administration revised this policy, and, since April 2021 all households in states with EAs have received EAs of at least \$95 a month. 10

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Rachel Garg *et al.*, "A new normal for 2-1-1 food requests?" Washington University in St. Louis Health Communication Research Laboratory, June 15, 2020, <a href="https://hcrl.wustl.edu/a-new-normal-for-2-1-1-food-requests/">https://hcrl.wustl.edu/a-new-normal-for-2-1-1-food-requests/</a>; Cindy Charles *et al.*, "Trends of top 3 food needs during COVID," Washington University in St. Louis Health Communication Research Laboratory, August 7, 2020, <a href="https://hcrl.wustl.edu/trends-of-top-3-food-needs-during-covid/">https://hcrl.wustl.edu/trends-of-top-3-food-needs-during-covid/</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Paul Morello, "The food bank response to COVID, by the numbers," Feeding America, March 12, 2021, <a href="https://www.feedingamerica.org/hunger-blog/food-bank-response-covid-numbers">https://www.feedingamerica.org/hunger-blog/food-bank-response-covid-numbers</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Laura Wheaton and Danielle Kwon, "Effect of the Reevaluated Thrifty Food Plan and Emergency Allotments on Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Benefits and Poverty," Urban Institute, August 2022, <a href="https://www.urban.org/research/publication/effect-reevaluated-thrifty-food-plan-and-emergency-allotments-supplemental">https://www.urban.org/research/publication/effect-reevaluated-thrifty-food-plan-and-emergency-allotments-supplemental</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Food insufficiency captures situations where households sometimes or often didn't have enough to eat in the past seven days. Diane Whitmore Schanzenbach, "The Impact of SNAP Emergency Allotments on SNAP Benefits and Food Insufficiency," Northwestern University Institute for Policy Research, January 27, 2023, <a href="https://www.ipr.northwestern.edu/documents/reports/ipr-rapid-research-report-snap-emergency-allotments-impact-27-january-2023.pdf">https://www.ipr.northwestern.edu/documents/reports/ipr-rapid-research-report-snap-emergency-allotments-impact-27-january-2023.pdf</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Households receive the maximum benefit because they have no disposable income available to purchase food under the SNAP benefit calculation rules. SNAP households are expected to spend 30 percent of their net income on food; SNAP makes up the difference between the household's contribution and the maximum benefit. Many other low-income households received only small EAs because their regular benefits were already close to the maximum due to their low disposable income.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> See Dottie Rosenbaum, "Reversing Trump Policy, Biden Administration Includes Lowest-Income Households in Emergency SNAP Benefits," CBPP, updated April 6, 2021, <a href="https://www.cbpp.org/blog/reversing-trump-policy-biden-administration-includes-lowest-income-households-in-emergency">https://www.cbpp.org/blog/reversing-trump-policy-biden-administration-includes-lowest-income-households-in-emergency</a>.

### Size of SNAP Benefit Decrease Will Vary for Different Types of Households

Households in the states that are no longer issuing EAs will not experience any reduction in their SNAP benefits in March due to the federal change. As Table 1 shows, in the 35 states that still are issuing EAs, the size of the cut for any given household will depend on their household composition, income, and other circumstances because a household's EA depends on the household size and regular SNAP benefit (which is in turn based on their income and expenses).<sup>11</sup>

Every household's benefits will be at least a \$95 a month lower. Some households, those who under regular SNAP rules receive lower benefits because they have incomes that are somewhat higher, but still modest, will see reductions of \$250 a month or more. The average *per-person* reduction will be about \$90 a month. Benefits for households in Hawai'i, Guam, and the Virgin Islands may fall by slightly more than the average because their maximum benefit levels are higher due to the increased cost of food in those locations.<sup>12</sup> (See Table 2 for estimated reductions in each state.)

The average decrease will vary by factors such as:

- Household composition. Households with children will lose \$223 on average per month. For households with adults aged 60 and older, the average decrease will be \$168, and for households with disabled people it will be \$190. The average decrease is larger for households with children because they tend to have larger households.
- Income. Households with incomes at or below the poverty line, about 4 in 5 SNAP households, will lose an average of \$142 per month. Lower-income households will lose less because their regular SNAP benefit is higher due to lower incomes or higher expenses that make it more difficult to afford enough food; their EA is lower as a result. Households with higher, but still low, incomes will lose more because they have somewhat more monthly income available for food, giving them a smaller regular SNAP benefit and a higher EA.
- Household size. One-person households will lose an average of \$132 per month, while three-person households will see a larger average reduction of \$197 per month. Larger households will lose more because the SNAP benefit is scaled to household size to account for each person's needs.

These estimated averages conceal wide variation even among households of the same size. For example, the average decrease among one-person households will be \$132 per month. The lowest-income households, who would have received the maximum SNAP benefit in the absence of EAs, will lose \$95. (This is about 4 in 10 one-person households.) By contrast, nearly one-sixth of one-person households would have received the minimum amount of SNAP benefits in the absence of the EAs and will lose much more when the EAs end — over \$250 per month. (See Figure 2.)

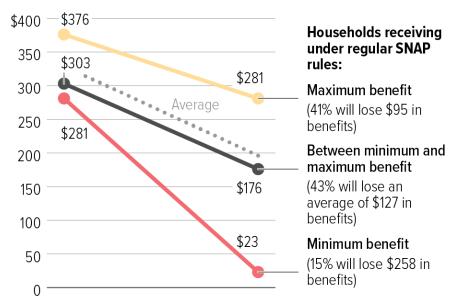
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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Estimates are based on CBPP analysis of fiscal year 2019 SNAP household characteristics data with income and expenses inflated to fiscal year 2023 values.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Alaska also has a higher maximum SNAP benefit than the 48 contiguous states and D.C. However, Alaska has already discontinued EAs.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Eligible households with one or two members qualify for at least a "minimum benefit," which is \$23 in fiscal year 2023 for 48 states and the District of Columbia (with higher amounts for Alaska, Hawai'i, Guam, and the Virgin Islands).

### Losses Will Vary Across Households, But Average 1-Person Household Will Lose \$132 When SNAP Emergency Allotments End



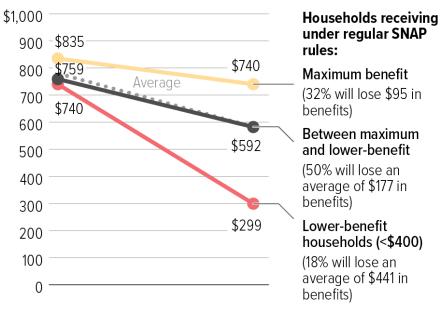
Note: Figures may not add up to 100 percent due to rounding.

Source: Estimates based on CBPP analysis of fiscal year 2019 SNAP Household Characteristics data with income and expenses inflated to fiscal year 2023 values

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There is similar variation in the amount of cut households of other sizes will see. For example, the average three-person household will see their benefit decrease by an estimated \$197 per month. Like one-person households, three-person households receiving the maximum benefit under regular program rules (about one-third of three-person households) will lose \$95. However, nearly 1 in 5 households (lower-benefit households receiving less than \$400 in regular monthly SNAP benefits) will lose more than \$440 per month in EAs on average. (See Figure 3.)

### Losses Will Vary Across Households, But Average 3-Person Household Will Lose \$197 When SNAP Emergency Allotments End



Source: Estimates based on CBPP analysis of fiscal year 2019 SNAP Household Characteristics data with income and expenses inflated to fiscal year 2023 values

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TABLE 1

### Estimated Decrease in SNAP Benefits Due to End of Pandemic Emergency Allotments

#### Per Month, By Household Demographic

	Share of SNAP Households	Share of SNAP Participants	Average Decrease Per Household	Average Decrease Per Person
Total households	100%	100%	\$175	\$88
Households with				
Children	39%	66%	\$223	\$67
Earnings	29%	42%	\$251	\$87
Aged 60+	28%	17%	\$168	\$138
Disabled	21%	19%	\$190	\$107
Maximum benefit under regular rules	36%	32%	\$95	\$55

TABLE 1

### Estimated Decrease in SNAP Benefits Due to End of Pandemic Emergency Allotments

#### Per Month, By Household Demographic

	Share of SNAP Households	Share of SNAP Participants	Average Decrease Per Household	Average Decrease Per Person
Minimum benefit under regular rules	10%	6%	\$286	\$244
Household size				
1	56%	28%	\$132	\$132
2	18%	18%	\$185	\$92
3	12%	18%	\$197	\$66
4	8%	16%	\$261	\$65
Gross income as a	percent of poverty			
No income	19%	15%	\$98	\$60
1-50%	18%	23%	\$108	\$41
51-100%	44%	42%	\$173	\$93
101-130%	13%	14%	\$303	\$146
131% and above	7%	6%	\$320	\$194

Note: Figures reflect the 50 states, D.C., Guam, and the Virgin Islands. Some states have stopped issuing EAs already. See Figure 1 and Table 2.

Source: Estimates based on CBPP analysis of fiscal year 2019 SNAP household characteristics data with income and expenses inflated to fiscal year 2023 values

## SNAP Cost-of-Living Adjustments and Thrifty Food Plan Revision Will Soften Cliff When Emergency Allotments End

Though all SNAP households will experience a significant reduction in benefits when EAs end, two factors will help to ensure that their regular SNAP benefit still comes closer to reflecting the cost of a healthy diet.

The first is the program's annual cost-of-living adjustments, which affect maximum benefits, income limits, and deductions used to calculate a household's SNAP benefit level. In the years leading up to the recent period of higher inflation, these cost-of-living adjustments typically resulted in modest changes to a household's SNAP benefits. However, because of the high recent inflation in food prices and other goods and services, the fiscal year 2023 cost-of-living adjustments, which went into effect on October 1, 2022, were higher.

SNAP maximum benefits increased by 12 percent. For a family of three, this raised the regular maximum SNAP benefit by \$88 per month, from \$652 to \$740. Though the annual cost-of-living adjustment is critical to ensuring that the purchasing power of SNAP benefits does not erode over time, it is based on food price changes over the 12 months ending the preceding June. This means

that these automatic adjustments can significantly lag food price increases when inflation is high. Indeed, from June 2022 through December 2022 food prices rose another 3 percent.

Separate from the cost-of-living adjustment, households' regular SNAP benefits more closely reflect the cost of a healthy diet due to a recent revision to the TFP, which is the basis for SNAP benefits. In the bipartisan 2018 farm bill, Congress directed USDA to update the TFP to account for current food prices, food composition data, consumption patterns, and modern dietary guidance. This comprehensive update to the TFP — the first since the 1970s — took effect in October 2021 and resulted in a 21 percent increase in maximum SNAP benefits. Because of the TFP revision, the average regular SNAP benefit when EAs end will drop from about \$9.00 per person per day to about \$6.10. Without the TFP revision, the average regular benefit would be only about \$4.75 per person per day.<sup>14</sup>

### **Preparing for the End of Emergency Allotments**

The timeframe for preparing for the end of EAs is short. The last EA issuances will occur in February in most states, though a handful of states will not issue the February emergency allotment until sometime in March. Because this decrease will be significant and affect all SNAP households in the states that still are paying EAs, it will be important for SNAP participants and local service providers, client advocate groups, retailers, and other stakeholders who communicate with SNAP participants to be aware of the timing of the reduction in benefits and to take measures to minimize its impact on households and on state agency operations.

Many states have already published outreach materials explaining how, when, and why benefits will change for households in their state, including materials in multiple languages. Clear communication to SNAP households will help reduce confusion and may reduce client inquiries and hearing requests to state agencies when EAs end.

Key messages to consider communicating to SNAP households include:

- During the COVID-19 pandemic, a federal program allowed [state] to give you extra SNAP benefits each month in addition to your regular benefits. These temporary benefits are ending after the February issuance.
- We know that shopping and eating with reduced benefits will be difficult, but this change is required by federal law and we cannot stop it.
- You will receive [or just "received" if the issuance has gone out] these extra benefits for the final time on [date]. After that, you will only receive your regular benefit amount.
- Unused SNAP benefits roll over from month to month, so you can continue to use any benefits you have saved up.
- This change does not affect your eligibility for benefits. You will continue to receive your regular SNAP benefit until the end of your certification period as long as you are eligible.
- Your regular SNAP benefits may rise if you have recently lost income, experienced an increase in certain expenses, such as housing or child care costs, or if someone in your household is

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Estimates based on CBPP analysis of fiscal year 2019 SNAP household characteristics data with income and expenses inflated to fiscal year 2023 values.

aged 60 or older or has a disability and medical expenses over \$35 per month. Tell [state or local agency] if your household has recently experienced these changes or if you think the state doesn't have the current information about your income or these expenses.

#### Other key information may include:

- How participants can check their regular SNAP benefit amount and current balance.
- Whom participants should contact if they have further questions or wish to provide updated information.
- Where participants can go if they need additional resources for food, including information about the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) for households that include pregnant or postpartum people or children under the age of 5. (See box, "Helping Families With Young Children.")

The upcoming end of EAs also highlights the continued importance of ensuring households can claim allowable deductions for expenses such as rent, utilities, dependent care, child support payments, and medical expenses. This will ensure that the regular SNAP benefit households receive most accurately reflects the available resources they have for food.

Because most states have been providing EAs for nearly three years, many households have never experienced the program under standard rules. Households may not have been recently screened for deductions and may not be aware that losing income or experiencing an increase in certain household costs could increase their regular SNAP benefit. While ensuring households can fully apply appropriate deductions is critical to reducing the hardship they will experience when EAs end, improving and streamlining state processes to screen for and verify household expenses can be an ongoing, longer-term project for states.

### **Helping Families with Young Children**

It is important for states to mitigate the impact of the end of EAs for all SNAP households, but states can take two concrete steps using federal benefit programs to help families with young children afford groceries.

Provide school year P-EBT benefits to children under age 6. School year P-EBT benefits for children under age 6 are available to young children in SNAP households and are intended to replace meals that these children would otherwise receive in a child care setting if not for pandemic-related closures or disruptions. States can act quickly to get a P-EBT child care plan approved for school year 2022-2023 using a relatively straightforward benefit calculation that relies on data all states currently collect. Based on state plans for summer 2022 P-EBT, states could provide P-EBT benefits to over 6 million children under age 6 in SNAP households. While it is also critical that states pursue school year and summer P-EBT plans for school-age children, those plans require more planning by states, and school year benefits are generally only available to a smaller subset of children who have experienced COVID-related absences.

Refer families to WIC. Only about half of eligible individuals participate in WIC and take-up is lower for pregnant individuals and children aged 1 through 4. SNAP participants are automatically considered income-eligible, or "adjunctively eligible," for WIC if they are pregnant, postpartum, or under age 5. Referring families to WIC, or mentioning WIC eligibility in outreach messages, could help connect or reconnect eligible families to additional grocery benefits and the longer-term health and developmental benefits associated with participation. While the value of WIC food benefits generally won't come close to fully making up for the loss of EAs, WIC benefits have recently increased. Due to an increase in WIC's fruit and vegetable benefit, the value of WIC's food package for children is nearly 50 percent higher than its value a couple of years ago and the value for pregnant or postpartum people has roughly doubled.

Estimated Reduction in SNAP Benefits Due to End of Pandemic Emergency Allotments

Per Month By State

State	FY 2022 Average SNAP Households (thousands)	Average Reduction Per Household	Average Reduction Per Person	Total Emergency Allotments Reduction (millions)
Alabama	377	\$179	\$85	\$67
Alaska	46	\$0	\$0	\$0
Arizona	390	\$0	\$0	\$0
Arkansas	140	\$0	\$0	\$0
California	2,616	\$163	\$84	\$425
Colorado	279	\$179	\$90	\$50
Connecticut	219	\$155	\$91	\$34
Delaware	59	\$189	\$93	\$11

Estimated Reduction in SNAP Benefits Due to End of Pandemic Emergency Allotments

Per Month By State

State	FY 2022 Average SNAP Households (thousands)	Average Reduction Per Household	Average Reduction Per Person	Total Emergency Allotments Reduction (millions)
District of Columbia	90	\$163	\$98	\$15
Florida	1,582	\$0	\$0	\$0
Georgia	791	\$0	\$0	\$0
Guam	13	\$242	\$85	\$3
Hawai'i	96	\$213	\$111	\$20
ldaho	61	\$0	\$0	\$0
Illinois	1,069	\$171	\$86	\$183
Indiana	290	\$0	\$0	\$0
lowa	138	\$0	\$0	\$0
Kansas	97	\$196	\$91	\$19
Kentucky	250	\$0	\$0	\$0
Louisiana	401	\$164	\$76	\$66
Maine	93	\$190	\$109	\$18
Maryland	436	\$173	\$95	\$76
Massachusetts	614	\$162	\$97	\$100
Michigan	719	\$173	\$93	\$125
Minnesota	224	\$208	\$108	\$47
Mississippi	208	\$0	\$0	\$0
Missouri	322	\$0	\$0	\$0
Montana	45	\$0	\$0	\$0
Nebraska	75	\$0	\$0	\$0
Nevada	240	\$182	\$97	\$44
New Hampshire	36	\$206	\$108	\$7
New Jersey	444	\$179	\$90	\$80
New Mexico	267	\$179	\$88	\$48
New York	1,640	\$151	\$87	\$248
North Carolina	811	\$181	\$88	\$147
North Dakota	24	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ohio	756	\$172	\$86	\$130
Oklahoma	303	\$179	\$84	\$54
Oregon	415	\$169	\$100	\$70
Pennsylvania	988	\$174	\$94	\$172

Estimated Reduction in SNAP Benefits Due to End of Pandemic Emergency Allotments

### Per Month By State

State	FY 2022 Average SNAP Households (thousands)	Average Reduction Per Household	Average Reduction Per Person	Total Emergency Allotments Reduction (millions)
Rhode Island	85	\$168	\$101	\$14
South Carolina	304	\$0	\$0	\$0
South Dakota	34	\$0	\$0	\$0
Tennessee	418	\$0	\$0	\$0
Texas	1,520	\$189	\$81	\$287
Utah	75	\$195	\$83	\$15
Vermont	40	\$170	\$98	\$7
Virginia	391	\$178	\$87	\$69
Virgin Islands	11	\$194	\$94	\$2
Washington	505	\$170	\$99	\$86
West Virginia	167	\$195	\$102	\$32
Wisconsin	373	\$206	\$105	\$77
Wyoming	14	\$0	\$0	\$0

Source: Estimates of decrease per household and per person based on CBPP analysis of fiscal year 2019 SNAP household characteristics data with income and expenses inflated to fiscal year 2023 values. Estimate of total decrease for states based on per household decrease and fiscal year 2022 USDA SNAP administrative data on household participation.